

LOCAL HAPPENINGS.

Items of Interest Gathered Around Las Vegas and Vicinity.

FROM TUESDAY'S DAILY LOCAL.

Capt. L. C. Fort has been appointed district attorney.

Stewart Christal is delivery boy for the Western Union for two weeks.

Jerome Lynch who formerly ran a cigar store on Sixth street is now residing at Wayne, Pa.

Pedro A. Archibque and Ursula Garcia were married at Upper Las Vegas, by Father O'Keefe, yesterday.

The Railroad Firemen's ball, night of the Fourth, must have a large attendance. They do not often come before the public.

Palemon Ortiz & Co. is the name of a new store at Chacon, N. M. Don Palemon Ortiz is putting in a good stock of goods at that point.

It is reported that there has been no rain at Wagon Mound, N. M., for some weeks and that it is very dry and no grass within a radius of six miles.

Major R. O. Rankin will, on tomorrow, take a position with the San Miguel National Bank, the one left vacant by the removal of H. J. Hammond to Eddy, to open a bank of his own.

A stranger in the city remarked to an OPTIC reporter that Las Vegas, from its display of flags and bunting was, in his opinion, the most patriotic town he has seen since he left the east.

Lois No. 90, Order of Elks, has given Las Vegas lodge, No. 408, a most courteous and pressing invitation to attend their celebration in Pueblo, July 34, 4th and 5th, and especially to be present at the grand parade, July 5th.

W. E. Smith, of Buford, Ga., a health-seeker, died about 7 p. m., yesterday; and the body, in charge of his brother-in-law, T. A. Ambrose, left for home this morning. Mr. Smith was a capitalist and aged about thirty-two years.

The remains of Wm. A. Powers, the unfortunate man who was run over by the cars, near Azul a few days ago and afterwards died from his injuries, were shipped on the early train to Armourdale, Kansas, where his parents reside.

At the election of officers of the Order of Independent Odd Fellows, at their hall, last evening, the following were elected for the ensuing term: Wm. H. Schultz, N. G.; Henry John, V. G.; H. C. Unsel, Secretary, Fred Biehl, treasurer.

Jack Meunett and W. F. Warner played the first series of the tournament games of lawn tennis at the lawn tennis court of the Las Vegas tennis society, last evening. There will be a series of these games played, preliminaries, semi-final and final.

Let the coming Fourth of July be an exceptionally patriotic one, which can be made, in the full sense of the word, if every business house in the town would close its doors on Saturday night, July 24, and remain closed until the morning of July 25th.

A grand patriotic rally has been called, tonight, for Fountain Square, where a number of addresses will be made. The band will be on hand, and every one is urged to attend, both ladies and gentlemen. Las Vegas must raise her new company of infantry.

All that remains mortal of the late John Rodes was taken to the Odd Fellows' cemetery this morning, accompanied by relatives and friends, the Order of L. O. O. F., of which he was a member, and E. Romero and fire company, to which he belonged. Short services were held at the grave.

Col. W. R. Tipton, M. D., of this city, Surgeon General of the New Mexico National Guards, has been instructed by the Governor to select three physicians of the Territory, they to examine and appoint the physician to act as assistant surgeon of the New Mexico Volunteers.

Fourteen troops of the 7th Cavalry regiment passed through on 17 from New York City to Ft. Huachuca, Arizona, they were dressed in their regular fatigue uniform made of brown duck, which the regular soldiers are using in the south, it being considerably lighter in weight and much more comfortable during the warm weather than the regulation navy blue.

PERSONAL.

Barney Daily is in from the Gascon Mills.

Frank Springer returned from points up the road.

Mrs. Fannie Sherman has arrived from Topeka, today.

Ell Green is down from Trinidad on a visit to relatives.

M. Y. Mills, of Springer, went through for Albuquerque.

Robt. J. Mingo and L. P. Churchill are in from Alamo Garcia.

A heavy hail visited the lower part of Mora town, yesterday.

Chas. H. Oosterdonk and family have gone to Lamby, to reside.

Winslow Nelson was in town today from his ranch near Mineral Hill.

M. Kaufman, commercial tourist, left on the early train for Trinidad.

Judge W. J. Mills and Ralph E. Twitcheit boarded No. 11 for Santa Fe.

J. W. Finney, the piano tuner, came up on the early train from Albuquerque.

Thos. A. Waldo, son of H. L. Waldo, arrived from Kansas City, this afternoon.

Anastacio and Candelario Rael, wool growers of Anton Chico, are in town today.

W. S. Lackey and wife left on the early train for Pueblo where they will visit friends.

Rev. J. M. Rivera, parish priest at Tip-topville, was in town today on a visit to relatives.

W. Y. Black and wife arrived from Pueblo today. Mrs. Black is a sister of the late John Rodes.

A. G. Wells, special car and party, he General manager of the Santa Fe-Pacific, went south, today.

T. R. Mills left this morning for Elizabethtown where he is interested in some valuable mining property.

A. A. Jones left for St. Louis where he visits his mother who is en route to this city on a visit to her son and family.

W. H. Howard, who accompanied his wife and daughter to the Hot Springs, for the latter's health, returned on the morning train to Pueblo.

Ed Rowe, wife and niece came in on 17. Mr. Rowe was a former train dispatcher of this city. They go to San Marcial, where Mrs. Rowe's people live.

Don Anastacio Mondragon, resident two miles from Agua Negra, died on the roadside, last Sunday noon, from hemorrhage of the lungs. He was buried yesterday, at El Rito.

W. H. Hamilton, Topeka; E. E. Ives, J. A. Thompson, Kansas City; J. E. Hannam, J. W. Jackson, G. H. Harvey, Denver; W. F. Powers, Albuquerque, registered at the Depot hotel.

Dr. C. B. Sargent is on the streets today, from Mora. He goes tomorrow morning to Chicago, attending Mrs. J. J. Puss, who will have an operation performed in the hospital there.

Dr. Brownson, the dentist from Taos, came in yesterday evening, and after attending to business matters, started in return to Taos. The doctor will return to Las Vegas, to make his home here.

THE PLAZA PARK.

Nothing better illustrates the development of New Mexico in general and Las Vegas in particular, than the Plaza Park. From a barren roadway or corral, such as it was prior to 1880, it has grown to be the prettiest public park in New Mexico and as pleasant and attractive a spot as can be found anywhere. The first attempt at beautifying it was made in 1880, when a neat wooden fence was erected about it, at a cost to the citizens of some \$1500. Then the earth within was broken up several times with plows to loosen and pulverize it, when trees were planted, walks laid out, and grass, flowers and shrubs cultivated. The trees planted were cottonwoods for early shade, interspersed with maples, elms, catalpas, locusts and the like. Though but a moderate degree of attention has been given them, all have grown rapidly until now they present the appearance of a forest and soon the cottonwoods must be cut away. The elms have proven to be the most rapid growers, many of them keeping pace with the cottonwoods.

Owing to the dilapidated condition, through age, of the original wooden structure, a new fence has for some time been an imperative duty, and last summer, the Citizens' Association took the matter in hand and cast about for ways and means to raise the needed funds. This, seemingly the greatest obstacle, was soon met and overcome. Then the question of the size and shape to be given the Park itself, and the character and style of the enclosure came up for consideration. At length it was decided to preserve the former outline but extend it on all sides to take in some ten feet more of the square, so as to give a broad promenade outside the outer row of trees.

As to what the new fence should be there was much diversity of opinion. Wood, iron and stone, all were talked of, but the latter, it was thought, would be too expensive. Finally with the example of the Santa Fe park before them, the Association concluded that it should have something similar and the Messrs. Rapp were employed to prepare a unique and suitable design for it. This was done and their plan adopted and bids asked for, with the surprising result that the heavy stone fence was no more costly than either wood or iron would have been.

The plans call for a foundation of white sand-stone of two feet in depth and upon this two courses of red sand-stone; a twelve inch course of range work and a heavy eight-inch coping in lengths of not less than four feet. The two latter courses are to be exposed and constitute the fence proper, being twenty inches above the grade of the street. The red sand-stone courses are rock-faced and the coping course cut slightly rounded on the top and bush hammered. At the sides of the four entrances to the park are square stone posts, also rock-faced and raised about eighteen inches above the rest of the wall, lending to the whole a rustic effect.

The contract was awarded to John Pettine at a very low figure, but as an inducement he was given plenty of time to do the work. All was completed something over a week ago and already the old wooden structure, within the new, has been removed and the ground on the outside cleared, so completely changing the appearance of the square, that even one familiar with it hardly recognizes it. Much yet remains to be done in the way of grading, but this will be attended to later on.

The OPTIC ventures the assertion that

no prettier or more substantial enclosure for a public park is to be found. It surpasses the Santa Fe park, both in beauty of design and the material used. No stone in the United States can compare in quality with the rich, red sandstone of Las Vegas.

None fear that the wall is too low and that animals will now trespass upon and destroy the grass and shrubbery. Such forget, though, that high enclosures are now a thing of the past and that the attractiveness of parks and lawns about private dwellings is greatly enhanced by their openness. Hedged high walls and fences encourage owners of animals to allow them to run at large. No one within the limits of a town has any right to pasture stock upon the streets or leave it there for even the briefest period without someone in charge of it. A few prosecutions and payments of damages will suffice to teach such, as are ignorant of the law on this subject, their duty, and this is the process of education the Association proposes to resort to, if necessary. It is believed, however, that the pride which all feel in this park will be a sufficient guarantee for its proper protection.

COURT NOTES.

A number of tax suits have been filed by Attorneys Veeder & Veeder, in behalf of the county and Territory against a number of the property owners who have become delinquent in the payment of their taxes.

The suit of John Evans vs. the Union Pacific, Denver & Gulf railroad company et al, has been dismissed on the petition of Frank Trumbull, the receiver.

The suit of the American Loan & Trust Co. vs. the Union Pacific, Denver & Gulf R. R. Co., et al, has been referred to C. D. Hayt, of Denver, Colo., as special master.

SOLDIERS' RELIEF LEAGUE.

There is now apparent need in Las Vegas for a Soldiers' Aid Society. In a few days orders will undoubtedly be received to recruit 105 men for our Infantry company, in this city. Many good men will come here without means to support themselves until they are mustered in, and unless Las Vegas takes some steps to aid these patriotic men, many will go hungry or return home without enlisting. This was the case in many instances in enlisting "Rough Riders." Can not the ladies of Las Vegas take some steps in this matter, as the ladies of Santa Fe have done?

In time of war a Soldiers' Aid Society is an absolute necessity, and such organizations have been organized in nearly all the Eastern cities, and Las Vegas should not fall behind in this patriotic duty.

The young ladies of the city should take the matter up with credit to themselves.

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